

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

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1. (CANCELED)

2. (CANCELED)

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A display control system for data control during screen display operations, said system comprising:  
a pointing device that indicates a position on a screen of a display unit; and  
a deleting unit that successively deletes first elements of data from a specified area of the screen at the indicated position and rearranges second elements of data remaining in the specified area in a spiral pattern to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually withdrawn from the specified area at the indicated position,  
said deleting unit including a first speed control unit that controls respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the first elements are successively deleted.

4. (ORIGINAL) The display control system as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:  
a completion indicating unit that displays a predetermined image at a specified position on the screen when all the second elements of data have been deleted as first elements of data.

5. (CANCELED)

6. (CANCELED)

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium encoded with a

program for controlling data display operations, said program comprising the functions of:

detecting a position on a screen of a display unit, the position being indicated by a pointing operation;

successively deleting first elements of data from a specified area of the screen at the indicated position, and rearranging second elements of data remaining in the specified area in a spiral pattern, to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually withdrawn from the specified area at the indicated position; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the first elements of data are successively deleted.

8. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable medium as claimed in claim 7, wherein said program further comprises the function of displaying a predetermined image at a specified position on the screen when all the second elements of data have been deleted as first elements of data.

9. (CANCELED)

10. (CANCELED)

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A data processing apparatus using a computer specifically configured by execution of a program encoded on a computer-readable medium, the program controlling data display operations and including the functions of:

detecting a position on a screen of a display unit, the position being indicated by a pointing operation;

successively deleting first elements of data from a specified area of the screen at the indicated position, and rearranging second elements of data remaining in the specified area in a spiral pattern, to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually withdrawn from the specified area at the indicated position; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the first elements of data are successively deleted.

12. (ORIGINAL) The data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein

the program further comprises the function of displaying a predetermined image at a specified position on the screen when all the second elements of data have been deleted as first elements of data.

13. (CANCELED)

14. (CANCELED)

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A display controller for data control during screen display operations, the controller comprising:

C ( a deleting unit that successively deletes first elements of data from a specified area of a display screen at a position indicated by a pointing device and rearranges second elements of data remaining in the specified area in a spiral pattern to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually withdrawn from the specified area ~~at a position indicated by a pointing device~~,

said deleting unit including a first speed control unit that controls respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the first elements are successively deleted.

16. (ORIGINAL) The display controller as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:  
a completion indicating unit that displays a predetermined image at a specified position on the screen when all the second elements of data have been deleted as first elements of data.

17. (CANCELED)

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A display controller for data control during screen display operations, said controller comprising:

a deleting unit that successively deletes elements of data in a spiral pattern from a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

a speed control unit that controls respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the elements of data are successively deleted.

19. (CANCELED)

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A display controller for data control during screen display operations, said controller comprising:

a restoring unit that successively restores elements of data in a spiral pattern to a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

a speed control unit that controls respective time intervals to be successively longer during which the elements of data are successively restored to the screen.

21. (CANCELED)

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program for controlling data display operations, said program comprising the functions of:

successively deleting elements of data in a spiral pattern from a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the elements of data are successively deleted.

23. (CANCELED)

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program for controlling data display operations, said program comprising the functions of:

successively restoring elements of data in a spiral pattern to a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively longer during which the elements of data are successively restored to the screen.

25. (CANCELED)

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A display controller for data control during screen display operations, said controller comprising:

a deleting unit that successively deletes elements of data in a spiral pattern from a

screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

a speed control unit that controls respective time intervals to be successively varied during which the elements of data are successively deleted.

27. (CANCELED)

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A display controller for data control during screen display operations, said controller comprising:

a restoring unit that successively restores elements of data in a spiral pattern to a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

a speed control unit that controls respective time intervals to be successively varied during which the elements of data are successively restored to the screen.

29. (CANCELED)

30. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program for controlling data display operations, said program comprising the functions of:

successively deleting elements of data in a spiral pattern from a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively varied during which the elements of data are successively deleted.

31. (CANCELED)

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium encoded with a program for controlling data display operations, said program comprising the functions of:

successively restoring elements of data to a screen in a spiral pattern of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively varied during which the elements of data are successively restored to the screen.

33. (CANCELED)

34. (CANCELED)

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for controlling data display operations, the method comprising:

detecting a position on a screen of a display unit, the position being indicated by a pointing operation;

successively deleting first elements of data from a specified area of the screen at the indicated position, and rearranging second elements of data remaining in the specified area in a spiral pattern, to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually withdrawn from the specified area at the indicated position; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the first elements of data are successively deleted.

36. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 35, further comprising displaying a predetermined image at a specified position on the screen when all the second elements of data have been deleted as first elements of data.

37. (CANCELED)

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for controlling data display operations, the method comprising:

successively deleting elements of data in a spiral pattern from a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively shorter during which the elements of data are successively deleted.

39. (CANCELED)

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for controlling data display operations, the method comprising:

successively restoring elements of data in a spiral pattern to a screen of a display unit at

a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively longer during which the elements of data are successively restored to the screen.

41. (CANCELED)

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for controlling data display operations, the method comprising:

successively deleting elements of data in a spiral pattern from a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively varied during which the elements of data are successively deleted.

43. (CANCELED)

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for controlling data display operations, the method comprising:

successively restoring elements of data in a spiral pattern to a screen of a display unit at a position indicated by a pointing device; and

controlling respective time intervals to be successively varied during which the elements of data are successively restored to the screen.